

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In response to the Examiner's Advisory Action of December 19, 2007 the Applicant respectfully submits the following Remarks.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the Applicant intended to file the following Remarks in response to the final Office Action of September 20, 2007 but erroneously refiled the Remarks and Amendment filed in response to the previous Office Action. The Applicant apologises for any confusion caused by this error.

### ***Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections***

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of pending independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 3 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by previously cited Gilbert in view of newly cited O'Donnell et al. (US 6,587,947), for at least the following reasons.

Pending independent claim 1 clearly recites that each integrated circuit comprises a non-volatile memory and a tamper detection line arranged to obscure operation of the non-volatile memory. It is respectfully submitted that contrary to the Examiner's contentions no combination of Gilbert and O'Donnell teaches or suggests such an arrangement of an integrated circuit.

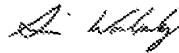
This is because, O'Donnell merely discloses using software to obfuscate values stored in local memory (see col. 4, lines 3-7), and the protection against fraud provided by the hardwired logic or microprocessor integrated circuit chips disclosed by Gilbert is to have the chip mask a certificate value, where Gilbert specifically discloses that this provides protection because a perpetrator would need to know the value of the logic functions and keys (which can be stored in non-volatile memory) used to generate the certificate in order to determine the masked value (see col. 3, lines 29-49 and col. 7, lines 41-45).

Thus, in any combination of Gilbert and O'Donnell if one of ordinary skill in the art wanted to protect the value of the keys stored in the non-volatile memory of Gilbert, software would be used to obfuscate these key values as taught by O'Donnell, not a hardware tamper detection line as required by the claimed invention, because neither Gilbert nor O'Donnell teaches or suggests protecting such values with hardware means.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

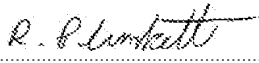
Very respectfully,

Applicant/s:



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Simon Robert Walmsley



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